

REMARKS

These remarks are responsive to the Non-final Office Action mailed October 14, 2009 (“Action”). Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 6-13, 15-19, 22-29, 31-35, 38-45, and 45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Begeja et al. (US 2003/0030752), Logan et al. (US 2003/0093790) and Dougherty et al. (US 7,028,327).

Claims 4, 5, 20, 21, 36, and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Begeja, Logan, and Dougherty, in further view of Shimomura et al. (US 6,526,580).

Claims 14, 30, and 46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Begeja, Logan, and Dougherty, in further view of Mitchell (US 2002/0162120).

Applicants respectfully traverse for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite features similar to those from previous claims 4 and 5 and now recites a method including the elements of:

“...
receiving input specifying a set of two or more of the plurality of video clips and a sequencing order, wherein the sequencing order is specified by a user-specified traversal of a decision tree having a plurality of decision nodes structured such that specifying a video clip at each node constrains selection of video clips at a subsequent node;
creating, prior to presentation, a composite video clip sequence in the sequencing order . . .”

To reject previous claims 4 and 5, the Action concedes that:

However, Begeja combined with Logan does not explicitly teach traversing a decision tree having a plurality of decision nodes.

See Action, p. 8. The Action also does not cite to Dougherty in the rejections of claims 4 and 5, and hence is implicitly conceding that Dougherty does not teach or suggest a decision tree as claimed. To remedy this deficiency, the Action cites Shimomura and asserts:

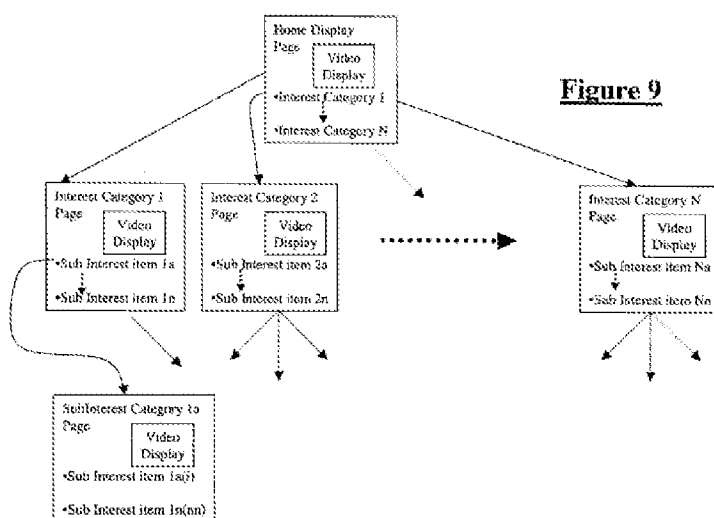
In an analogous art Shimomura, which discloses a system for providing program segments on demand, clearly teaches selecting video clips by traversing a decision tree having a plurality of decision nodes. **(Fig. 9 column 12 line 58 to column 13 line 10)**

Id. In the claim 5 rejection, the Action further asserts that:

Consider **claim 5**, Begeja combined with Logan, Dougherty and Shimomura, as in claim 4, clearly teaches the decision tree is structured such that specifying a VOD clip at each node constrains selection of VOD clips at subsequent nodes. **(Fig. 9 Shimomura)**

Id. Thus, the Action is relying on FIG. 9 of Shimomura as purportedly disclosing the features of previous claims 4 and 5.

FIG. 9 of Shimomura, reproduced below, does not teach or suggest creating, *prior to presentation*, a composite video clip sequence *in a sequencing order* specified by a user-specified traversal of a decision tree having a plurality of decision nodes structured such that specifying a video clip at each node constrains selection of video clips at a subsequent node. Instead, Shimomura presents video in response to a user selecting to view a web page. Shimomura does not, however, disclose using a user-specified traversal of a decision tree to create a composite video sequence from video of selected web pages, prior to presenting the composite video sequence, and hence is not analogous to the claimed features.



In FIG. 9, Shimomura “illustrates a conceptual diagram of hierarchical multimedia information pages generated and stored by a multimedia receiver/server system.” *See* Shimomura, C3, L24-26. Shimomura indicates that the web pages include a video window playing “a multimedia video clip stream related to the most important news story within the user's interests.” *Id.* at C3, L40-41. Shimomura explains that “if the user is not interested in the video clip **currently being displayed** or any of the current headlines, the user can select one of the different headline categories” and the “web server will then present a web page with specific category information.” *Id.* at C3, L63-67 (emphasis added). Thus, Shimomura displays video in response to a user selecting to view a particular web page.

Shimomura does not disclose creating, prior to presentation, a composite video sequence from video selected during a user-specified traversal of webpages. For example, Shimomura does not disclose a user selecting a first video on a first webpage, a user selecting a second video on a second webpage, creating, prior to presentation, a composite of the first and second videos, and then presenting the composite video. Rather, the video in Shimomura is presented upon selection by the user, without any creation of a composite sequence prior to presentation.

Further, Shimomura does not disclose a composite video sequence that is in a *sequencing order* specified by a user-specified traversal of a decision tree having a plurality of decision nodes structured such that specifying a video clip at each node constrains selection of video clips at a subsequent node. As discussed above, Shimomura does not disclose a composite video sequence, and hence also fails to disclose the other aspects of the claimed composite video sequence. As such, the combination of Begeja, Logan, Dougherty, and Shimomura, even if proper, does not teach or suggest all elements of amended claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is in condition for allowance and request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Amended independent claims 17 and 33, as well as new independent claim 48, are allowable at least for reasons analogous to those given in support of claim 1. The pending dependent claims are allowable at least due to their dependence on an allowable claim, as well as for the features they recite.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned should it be deemed necessary to facilitate prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,
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